

Section 9. Medical Emergencies and Management

IN CASE OF ANY MEDICAL EMERGENCY, DIAL 9-911 OR (0) FOR THE IRF SECURITY CONTROL DESK

General Emergency Response

Steps to Take in the Event of a Medical Emergency

- **Check**
The scene- for safety, to find out what happened, to determine how many victims there are, and for bystanders who can assist
- **Call**
9-911 or 0
- **Care**
For life-threatening conditions
- **Notify**
Appropriate RML personnel (e.g. Occupational Safety and Health Manager, Biosafety Officer) of the incident

Emergency Response in Contained Areas

Specifics for BSL-3/ABSL-3 Laboratories

- If the individual is conscious and can be moved, remove protective clothing (if it will cause no further harm), exit the laboratory immediately, and seek medical attention as necessary.
- If the individual is unconscious, call for emergency help, then provide care.
- If possible (and if it will cause no further harm) move the unconscious person to the outside of the laboratory through the anteroom. Continue care until emergency personnel arrive.
- If the victim cannot be moved, instruct the emergency personnel in proper gowning procedures to enter the facility.

See Section 9 for specifics of emergency response in BSL-4 Areas

IRF Isolation/Evaluation Facility

The IRF Isolation/Evaluation Facility located on the first floor, Room 1A120D, can be used for temporary isolation and care of injured or ill IRF personnel, or those recently

exposed to BSL-3 or BSL-4 agents, until emergency response personnel arrive or until they can be evaluated by the RML Infectious Disease Advisor or other qualified medical personnel. **Movement of personnel to the Isolation/Evaluation Facility should be undertaken only if it will cause no further harm to the individual(s) or those assisting them.**

While individuals who have been recently exposed to BSL-3 or BSL-4 agents and properly decontaminated prior to removal from the laboratory do not pose an immediate threat to other staff, good judgement should be used if escorting them to the Isolation/Evaluation Facility. Respect their privacy and be aware that there can be a psychological impact from such exposures.

Transport of individuals from RML by emergency response personnel may be restricted to an isolation gurney as supplied by NIH-RML. This determination will be made by the RML Biological Exposure Assessment Program (see Section 11).

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